



RESOLUTION

**EXTENDING CONGRATULATIONS TO SEAN O'CONNOR, TOM O'CONNOR,
JOHNNY CHILDS, TOM (TJ) JACKSON, SCOTT JUSTASON, THOMAS CANTARA,
AND MARCIA GARDNER FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE
2006 SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES**

CITY OF NASHUA

In the Year Two Thousand and Six

RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Nashua that

Congratulations from Mayor Bernard A. Streeter and the Board of Aldermen are hereby extended to Sean O'Connor, Tom O'Connor, Johnny Childs, Tom (TJ) Jackson, Scott Justason, Thomas Cantara, and Marcia Gardner for participating in the 2006 Special Olympics World Games. The games will be held in Ames, Iowa in July, 2006.

Sean O'Connor and Tom O'Connor

This father and son team, as athlete and partner, have participated in unified golf with Nashua Special Olympics for six years now and repeatedly brought in the gold. They train together at Green Meadows Golf Club in Hudson and are one of our greatest pairs out on the green. Sean is a graduate of Nashua High School and while there, he was a manager of the football and basketball teams. He is an active member of the Appalachian Club and currently he is hiking the 4,000-foot mountains in New Hampshire having already completed 18 of those mountains. Sean has worked at Military China Art for 3 years. Over the past 15 years, Sean has participated in the following Special Olympics' sports: alpine skiing, aquatics, athletics, unified bowling, unified alpine skiing, unified golf, unified volleyball, snowboarding, and unified basketball. Sean and his dad are excited about being selected as part of the Special Olympics New Hampshire unified golf team going to the 2006 National Games in Ames, Iowa, in July.

Johnny Childs

Johnny is a new athlete to Nashua Special Olympics and in his first year on the unified softball team. He was picked to participate in the 2006 National Games and represent Special Olympics New Hampshire unified softball in Ames, Iowa.

Tom (TJ) Jackson

TJ has been a partner on the Nashua Special Olympics' unified softball team for around 10 years. He has been instrumental in the success of the team when they received their gold medals at the 2005 Special Olympics New Hampshire Unified Softball Tournament. TJ is a strong player and brings determination, skill, and support to the team. He is a senior this year at Nashua South High School, and he is very involved in the Culinary Arts Department at Nashua High School North. TJ will be attending Atlantic Culinary Art School in Dover, New Hampshire, in August. He is excited about being a member of the Special Olympics New Hampshire Unified Softball Team and traveling to Ames, Iowa, this summer.

Scott Justason

Scott was born and lives in Nashua. He is 24 years old and graduated from Nashua High School in 2001. Scott is employed at BJ's Wholesale Club as a carriage retriever. He has worked there for almost 2 years. He was recognized as the Star of the Month of January. He is very proud of this achievement. Scott has been involved with Special Olympics for 16 years. He participates in bowling, alpine skiing, golf, basketball, and aquatics. Scott was chosen to go to the Special Olympics World Games in Raleigh Durham, North Carolina, in 1999 to represent New Hampshire. He participated in aquatics and won the gold medal in his 100 meter individual medley. Scott has been chosen as an alternate in aquatics for the National Games in Ames, Iowa. If he does go to the National Games, Scott will do his best to bring back the gold medal for his Nashua Special Olympics swimming coach Maryann Berkins.

Thomas Cantara

Tom is a Special Olympics New Hampshire Athlete Alternate for the Unified Softball Team. Other Nashua Special Olympic sports that he participates in are alpine skiing, aquatics, athletics, unified bowling, unified golf, unified floor hockey, unified softball, and unified basketball. Tom is a freshman at Nashua South High School and is on the ski team. He is a gifted athlete who strives to do his very best. Even though Tom is an alternate for the Special Olympics New Hampshire Unified Softball, he is looking forward to the training sessions.

Coaches

Marcia Gardner

Marcia has been involved in many aspects of Nashua Special Olympics for 15 years. She has volunteered or coached in most of the sports Nashua Special Olympics has offered such as: alpine skiing (SONH Certified Coach), aquatics, athletics, unified bowling, unified softball (SONH Certified Coach), unified golf, and unified volleyball (SONH Certified Coach). She has been an active member of the Nashua Special Olympics for the past 13 years acting as Director for six of those years. Marcia is also involved in SONH programs such as: Global Messengers Facilitator and Speech Coach; Summer Games Awards; local, state, national, and world log, pin, and tee shirt designs; and "Coaching Special Olympics" Facilitator. Marcia and her family won the 1996 Special Olympics New Hampshire "Family of the Year" Award and the 2003 Special Olympics International "Hero" Award. She is excited about her newest venture as the New Hampshire Special Olympics Assistant Volleyball Coach.